

# Commonwealth of Kentucky

## STATE SENATE

Capitol Annex  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502.564.8100  
Fax: 502.564.6151  
dorsey.ridley@lrc.ky.gov



4030 Hidden Creek Drive  
Henderson, KY 42420  
Home: 270.826.5402  
Office: 270.869.8400

**J. DORSEY RIDLEY**

April 25, 2006

Site Selection Team  
FutureGen Industrial Alliance, Inc.  
International Square  
1875 I Street NW  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear FutureGen Site Selection Team:

This is to express my strong support for the FutureGen project and to urge the FutureGen Alliance to site the plant at the Kentucky-proposed site in Henderson County.

My Kentucky State Senate district, District 4, includes four of the seven coal-producing counties in the West Kentucky coalfield. These counties -- Henderson, Union, Webster, and Crittenden -- accounted for over 8.2 million tons of coal production in 2005, almost one-third of total Western Kentucky production. Although Western Kentucky coal production has increased in recent years, it remains well below the record level of over 56 million tons reached in 1975. The future of this coal region is to advance and deploy the next generation of clean coal technology embodied by the FutureGen project.

Further, the FutureGen project and advanced clean coal technologies are critical to the United States achieving energy independence. Our nation -- and the Commonwealth of Kentucky -- is blessed with an abundant supply of coal. We must invest in research and development that ensures that coal remains a viable energy source - utilized in an environmentally sound manner - for our energy future. I can think of no better place to promote such investment through the construction of the FutureGen facility than Henderson County, Kentucky.

In addition to its abundant natural resources that contribute so much to this project, the area is part of the Henderson, KY-Evansville, IN MSA. The metro area provides a high quality of life and the amenities necessary for such a high profile project. Also, the area is very well situated in the heart of the Eastern US and provides easy access to a majority of US markets and population-bases.

I applaud the foresight of the FutureGen Alliance and the U.S. Department of Energy in demonstrating the FutureGen Power Plant of the Future and strongly urge the FutureGen Alliance to give its closest attention to the Henderson County, Kentucky, site proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Dorsey Ridley".

J. Dorsey Ridley  
State Senator